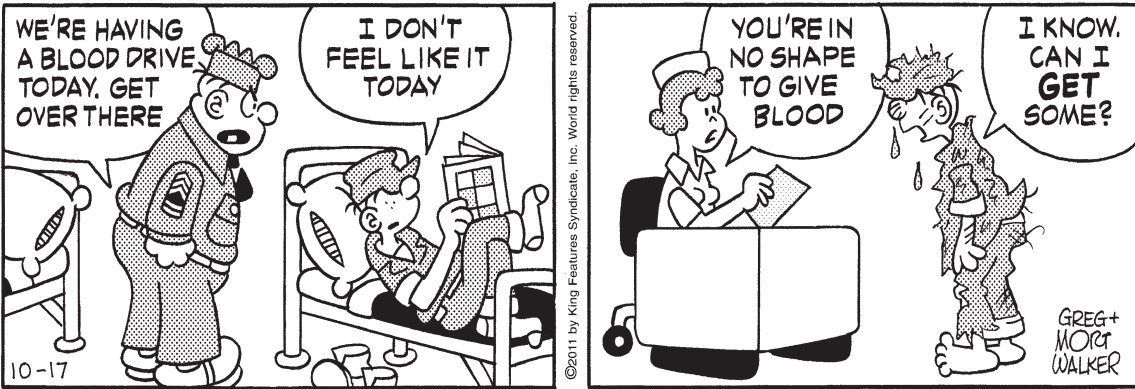


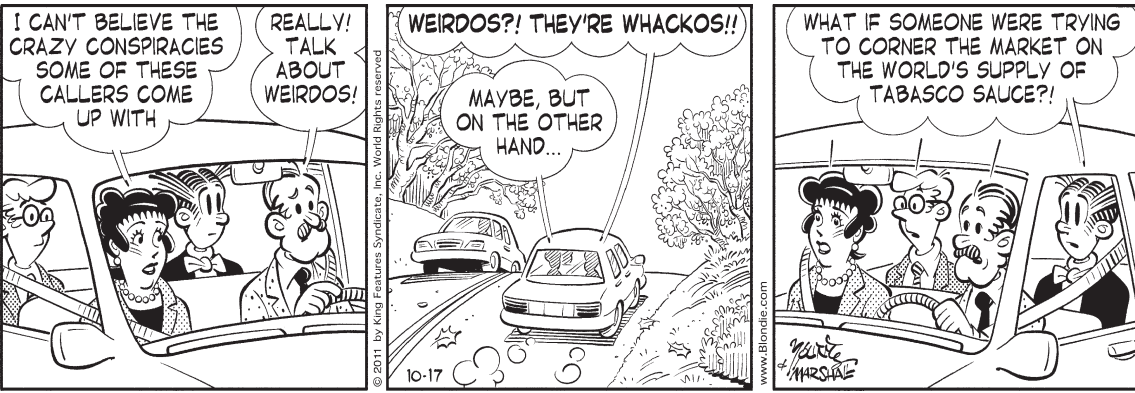
Baby Blues • Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



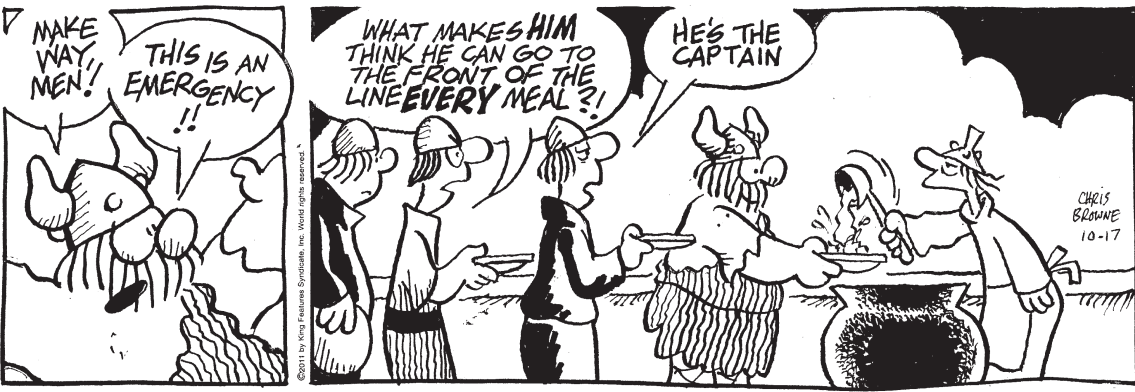
Beetle Bailey • Mort Walker



Blondie • Chic Young



Hagar the Horrible • Chris Browne



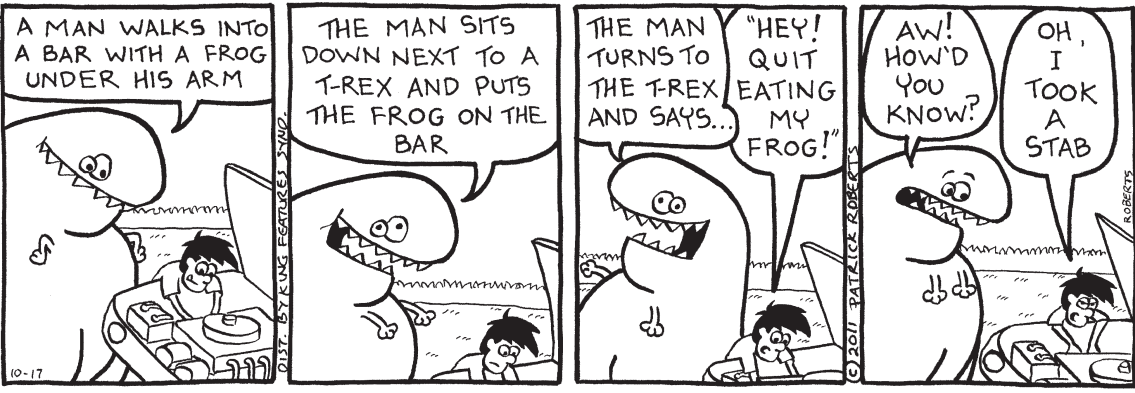
Mother Goose and Grimm • Mike Peters



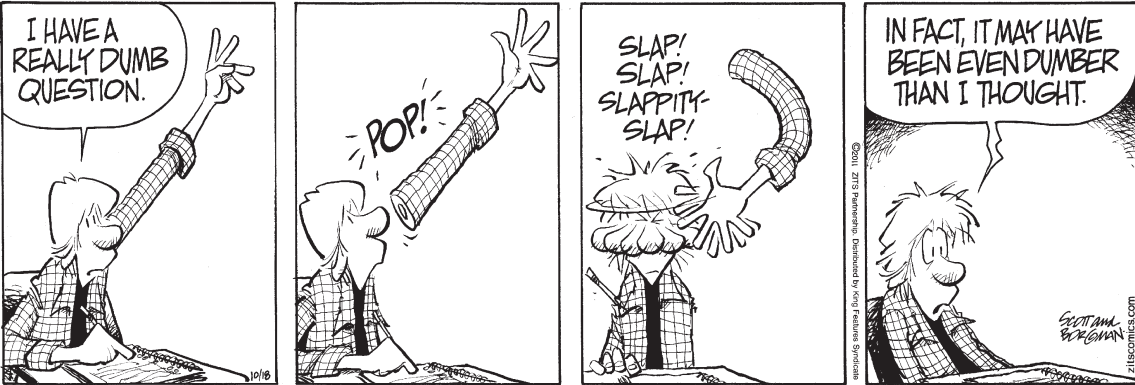
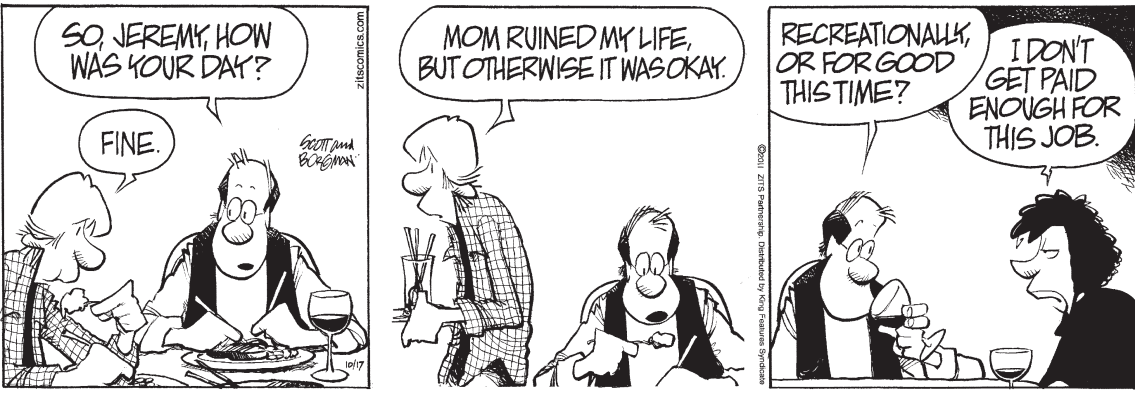
Sally Forth • Greg Howard



Todd the Dinosaur • Patrick Roberts



Zits • Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott



Dr. Joyce Brothers



Boss controls everyone's lives

Dear Dr. Brothers: I work at a small business where the owner has gone overboard trying to become the best. I have no problem with increasing quotas and contests and pep talks. But he tries to control every move in and out of the shop, and I am sick of having to answer for what my wife makes for dinner or what time I go to bed. Can I tell my boss to mind his own business? — S.V.

Dear S.V.: Well, I guess you could tell him that, if you don't mind being unemployed. I know what you mean, though — it sounds like he found a place to become a little king of sorts, with people scared enough to go along with his demands. So there you are. But is that really what is happening? Perhaps your boss, whom you see as an intrusive bully, actually is a scared-to-death owner of a business he loves. Could you see him as someone with more of a stake in the success of the place than you have, and a passion employees can't understand? Perhaps butting into your home lives is his way of taking care of his people.

So perhaps the truth lies in the middle. Everyone in business is trying to get by, do the best they can and maybe win the branding wars or whatever the goals are for the business. It's just that the boss has let his vision dominate his life and can't understand why you all aren't enthusiastic. Don't be afraid to bring him back to Earth once in a while.

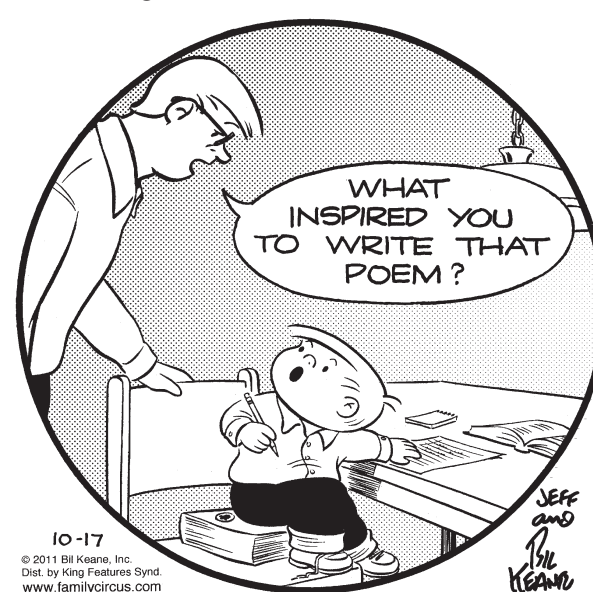
Dear Dr. Brothers: I have always been a friendly, outgoing person. I am from a small town where everyone knows everyone else's business, and we talk about it. Now that I've moved to the city, I find people don't visit, and when I try to be friendly to businesspeople, they don't reply. Should I try to change them, or myself? I can talk at work, but I am used to more than that. — N.C.

Dear N.C.: Of course you don't want your work to be your whole life, and when you are in a new city, it is important to make friends with whom you can talk. But sometimes people need a while to warm up to strangers, and rather than thinking about trying to change them, you might just need to give them space and time. You may be outgoing and friendly, but it is possible you come across as pushy or intrusive. It would be great if everyone had enthusiasm for sharing, but that's not the case. And trying to change others rather than ourselves usually is fruitless.

So, back off on the conversation, and keep your exchanges light until people get to know you and realize you aren't going to dominate their morning when you come in for coffee or whatever. Then start looking for something to do after work and on weekends that will bring you into contact with other friendly, outgoing people. Perhaps join a church or a gym, or volunteer at a children's hospital — anything that will put you back in your comfort zone. And don't forget to practice your listening skills.

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Family Circus • Bil Keane



"My teacher. She told me to write a poem."

Conceptis Sudoku • Dave Green

		5	2	4	7	1		
			9	5				
	9							2
9			3		2		6	7
2	3			7			1	4
7	5		4		1			8
	1							8
				6	4			
		7	8	3	9	6		

Difficulty Level ★ 10/17

This is a logic-based number placement puzzle. The goal is to enter a number, 1-9, in each cell in which each row, column and 3x3 region must contain only one instance of each numeral. The solution to the last Sudoku puzzle is at right.

7	5	8	2	4	9	1	6	3
3	9	4	6	5	1	2	7	8
2	1	6	8	3	7	5	9	4
9	4	2	3	1	6	8	5	7
1	7	3	5	9	8	4	2	6
8	6	5	4	7	2	3	1	9
5	8	9	1	6	3	7	4	2
4	3	7	9	2	5	6	8	1
6	2	1	7	8	4	9	3	5

Cryptoquip

GU T YDXWI BU YROBXM
CDNNGTX CDFMCN PMCM
WCBPKMK QGOIQFR QBOMQIMC
PBDFK QIMR YM QNTC-KGXMN?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WELL-KNOWN POP HIT WHOSE LYRICS CONCERN A VERY FAMOUS MUSEUM IN PARIS: "THE LOOK OF LOUVRE."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals F

Crossword • Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN | ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Bath powder | 35 Appear | 1 Oom-pah instrument | 19 Coaster |
| 5 Snip | 37 Endorses goddess | 2 State with conviction | 22 Madagascar primate |
| 8 Corned beef recipe | 41 Comic Caroline | 3 Lecherous look | 24 "Help!" |
| 12 Eye layer | 42 Deodorant site | 4 Life's work | 25 Suffix with press or fail |
| 13 — shoe-string | 45 More gross | 5 Halloween outfits | 26 Replaces in the TV lineup |
| 14 Inner (Pref.) | 49 Stuff you need | 6 Burma's first prime minister | 27 Those with faulty logic |
| 15 Super Bowl party quaff | 51 Money of Lesotho | 7 Reveille's opposite | 29 Pismire |
| 16 Western-most Great Lake | 52 Initial stake | 8 Medal earners | 30 "Of course" |
| 18 Apprehend | 53 "To be or ..." | 9 Disney employee | 33 Detail, for short |
| 20 Puts one's foot down | 54 Greek vowels | 10 Halt | 36 Youngster |
| 21 Hebrew month | 55 Nuisance | 11 — | 38 "Annie Get Your Gun" role |
| 23 Vast expanse | 56 Type measures | 17 Harvard rival | 40 Part of RSVP |
| 24 Diana Ross' backup | 57 Harvard rival | | 42 Pronto, on a memo |
| 28 Remain | | | 43 Mysterious character |
| 31 Bobby of hockey lore | | | 44 Fork prong |
| 32 Sample recordings | | | 46 Tittle |
| 34 Individual | | | 47 And others (Lat.) |
| | | | 48 Go up |
| | | | 50 Eternity |

Solution time: 27 mins.

ASP	AFEW	MADE	
TOU	EURO	ACNE	
DOMI	NEER	DEAL	
ENAM	ELKI	AKIA	
PAS	DOMINI		
BOILS	BANDES		
ARTY	GAY	FLEA	
NEE	GOT	SLEDS	
DOMINO	ANY		
MUD	MANTIS		
POMP	DOMINICK		
EDIE	ARAL	LEI	
WELL	YENS	TSP	

Saturday's answer 10-17

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18				19				20		
				21				22		
24	25	26						27		
31				32				33		
35				36				37		
				39				40		
42	43			44				45		
49				50				51		
52				53				54		
55				56				57		

Bridge • Steve Becker

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ A
♥ AKQJ104
♦ 9863
♠ A7
WEST
♦ 54
♥ 97
♦ AKQJ107
♣ J42
EAST
♦ J76
♥ 65
♦ 542
♣ K9865
SOUTH
♦ KQ109832
♥ 832
♦ —
♣ 103
The bidding:
South 3♠
West Pass
North 4♣
East 4♠
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Famous Hand

Some hands played in the annual world championship prove to be downright embarrassing to the participants. For example, take this deal from the 1973 match between the Dallas Aces, who were the defending champions, and another U.S. team that included Paul Soloway and John Swanson.

When Soloway and Swanson were North-South, they got to four spades, making seven, in the manner shown. And when Bobby Wolff and Bob Hamman of the Aces were North-South, they bid the hand exactly the same way and also made seven!

There was no strong feeling at the time that either pair had done anything wrong by raising three spades to four, even though the odds in favor of making seven on the North-South cards were about 3-to-1.

The shortcomings in the bidding methods of the two U.S. pairs were soon made apparent when the Italian team played the same hand against Indonesia in another match. With Benito Garozzo and Giorgio Belladonna of Italy North-South, the bidding went:

South 3♠ West Pass North 4♣ East Pass
4♦ Dble Pass Pass
Redble Pass 5NT Pass
7♠

Four clubs was a cuebid inferentially accepting spades as trumps and, at the same time, requesting South to show his side-suit controls, if any. Four diamonds was also a cuebid, indicating a diamond control. The subsequent redouble by South confirmed first-round diamond control.

Five notrump was the Grand Slam Force, asking South to bid seven spades if he had two of the top three trump honors. Belladonna duly bid the grand slam, which he made, and the Italians provided yet another example of their excellence in the field of slam bidding.

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